GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COAL AND MINES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2289
ANSWERED ON:23.07.2004
ILLEGAL MINING IN DHANBAD
Yerrannaidu Shri Kinjarapu

Will the Minister of COAL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether illegal mining has been going on in Dhanbad/ Eastern Coalfields coal mines; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to curb such activities ?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR COAL AND MINES (DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO)

(a) : Yes, Sir. Cases of illegal mining have also been reported from Dhanbad in Eastern Coalfields Ltd. Illegal mining activities are carried out stealthily and clandestinely by outsiders from abandoned/ closed/ disused mines or from outcrop regions.

(b) : Subsidiary companies of Coal India Ltd. have been taking the following steps to prevent illegal mining in their leasehold areas in coalfields :

(i) Intelligence collection

(ii) Dozing off/ filling up of unauthorized mining sites wherever possible.

(iii) Erection of fencing walls in abandoned/ disused openings.

(iv) Round the clock patrolling by own security force and CISF.

(v) Surprise/ checks/ raids by security force / CISF.

(vi) Whenever unauthorizely mined coal and implements used in unauthorized mining are seized during the course of raids, the same are handed over to local police and FIRs lodged.

(vii) Close liaison is kept with District Authorities seeking their help and cooperation in curbing unauthorized mining.

(viii) Black listing of the trucks seized carrying coal from such operation.

However, Deptt. of Coal had already written to Chief Secretaries of Coal producing states requesting for considering framing, if not already done, suitable rules under provisions of the Mines and Minerals (Development & Regulation) Act, 1957 for strengthening the arms of District Authorities in their drive against illegal mining